

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-42 are pending in this application. Claims 9-12 and 38-42 have been amended. Applicants have provisionally elected Group III (claims 16, 20-23, 26, 31, 33, and 35) with traverse. In view of the above amendments, the instant application complies with the requirements of 1.821(d).

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. HO-P0226US0 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: October 3, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Jila Bakker, Reg. No. 53,962  
Patent Agent  
FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.  
1301 McKinney, Suite 5100  
Houston, Texas 77010-3095  
(713) 651-5151  
(713) 651-5246 (Fax)  
Attorney for Applicant